132. Opening of more schools at Colachel.

Mr. T. Raman Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Colachel) said that the existing facilities for education in the town of Colachel and the neighbouring places were very scanty. There was an incomplete higer grade elementary school in the town. The Member requested that Class VII should be opened in it, the necessary accommodation being provided at Government cost, as at Balaramapuram, Haripad, Keerikad, Parasala, etc. especially in view to the fact that the people had already spent a large amount on the existing school-building. A sum of money and some timber had already been collected by the people. The balance should be spent by the Government.

He next suggested that a lower grade secondary school might be opened in the town. The school could be accommodated in the Police station buildings, which were handed over to the Police Department some thirty years ago when the English school in the town was abolished. The Member prayed also for the establishment of a departmental lower grade elementary school for girls. He said that about 90 girls were now attending the aided girls' school and the departmental boys' school.

Dewan's reply.—Noted. In regard to the opening of Class VII in the higher grade elementary school, this has already been sanctioned by Government with effect from the next school-year, provided the people would erect a suitable building for the purpose on an approved site.

133. Desirability of raising the secondary school at Neyyattinkara to the Fourth Form standard.

Mr. P. C. Raman Vaidyan (Member, T. I. C., Neyyattinkara) said that there were two lower grade secondary schools in the taluk. But if the students wanted to study after Form III, they had now to go to Nagercoil or Trivandrum. There would be a sufficient number of students if Form IV were opened in the school at Neyyattinkara. He hoped that the fees realised from the students would go a great way in meeting the additional expenditure involved. He pressed the question on the early attention of the Government.

Dewan's reply.—The policy of the Government is not to open more departmental higher grade secondary schools, and the Member from Neyyattinkara, who brought up the same subject last year, was told so. If the people are prepared to start the Fourth Form, the Government will render the required help.

134. Opening of a secondary school near the Karunagapalli Taluk Cutcherry.

Mr. P. Sankara Pillai (Member, Karunagapalli taluk) said that the condition of education in the taluk was very poor. That was evidenced by the fact that there was not a single graduate in the whole taluk. Referring to the policy of the Government in respect of secondary schools, the Member said that it was hard to apply the same in the case of educationally backward taluks. Education had not produced men capable to undertake the work of starting a secondary school. It was not want of money, but want of capable men, that prevented the starting of private secondary schools in the taluk. There were three secondary schools, either on the borders of the taluk or at places where students from outside could not find accommodation. Those schools were not therefore thriving. If the Government were to sanction a lower grade secondary school at the headquarters of the taluk, the people were willing to provide the necessary site and buildings. That school would give sufficient educational facilities to the children of about 80,000 people who had now to be sent to Quilon and other places.

Dewan's reply.—There are at present three secondary schools in the taluk *viz.*, at Chavara, Kayankulam and Pudupalli, the first two of which are departmental schools. Very few boys from Karunagapalli seem to attend the Chavara scho now. The present policy of Government is not to open more departmen secondary schools. If, however, the people are prepared to open a second school and conduct it on proper lines, every assistance will be rendered by Gov ment in the shape of grant.

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